sector and as such a separate discussion on this account might not be necessary. A number of question notices have been received leading to the possibility of the Committee's Report, or some aspects thereof, being discussed in Parliament. Some recommendations, in the event of their acceptance, will necessitate legislative changes envisaging discussions in Parliament in the process.

वाणिज्यिक बैंकों की नई शाखायें

645. **श्री जनार्दन यादव:** क्या वित्त मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) वर्ष 1996-97, 1997-98 के दौरान वाणिज्यिक बैंकों की कितनी नई शाखायें खोलने की अनुमति दी गई है;

(ख) क्या इस वर्ष के दौरान विदेशी बैंकों से नई शाखायें खोलने के लिए आवेदन प्राप्त हुए हैं; और

(ग) यदि हां, तो क्या बैंकों की इस सूची में ऐसा कोई बैंक भी शामिल है, जिसका वर्ष 1991-92 के वित्तीय घोटाले की जांच कर रही संयुक्त संसदीय समिति ने उल्लेख किया है?

वित्त मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री आर० जनार्दनम): (क) भारतीय रिजर्व बैंक द्वारा देश में शाखाएं खोलने के लिए भारतीय वाणिज्यिक बैंकों और विदेशी बैंकों को जारी किए गए प्राधिकार पत्र की संख्या निम्नानुसार है:—

वर्ष	प्राधिकार पत्र की संख्या
1996-97	1041
1997-98	1028

(ख) और (ग) जी, हां।

सिलाई मशीन पर आयात शुल्क

646. **श्री सूर्यभान पाटील वहाडणे:** क्या वित्त मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) क्या सरकार ने 27.9.97 को अखबारों में "भारत में सिलाई मशीनों पर आयात शुल्क की दरें तर्कसंगत नहीं" शीर्षक से छपी खबर के बारे में कोई पूछताछ की है;

(ख) यदि हां, तो तत्संबंधी ब्यौरा क्या है; और

(ग) सरकार ने इस संबंध में क्या कार्रवाई की है?

वित्त मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री आर० जनार्दनम): (क) सरकार को "भारत में सिलाई मशीनों पर आयात शुल्क की दरें तर्कसंगत नहीं" शीर्षक से छपे समाचार की जानकारी है। किन्तु सरकार ने इस संबंध में कोई जांच नहीं की है।

(ख) और (ग) ऊपर (क) को देखते हुए, ये प्रश्न नहीं उठते।

Reforms Proposed for Insurance Companies

647. DR. B. B. DUTTA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to announce a paragon on autonomy of the insurance compaines;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith other reforms proposed for the insurance compaines;

(c) the salient feature of the recently announced citizen's charter;

(d) whether Government propose to announce the citizen's charter for the banking companies also; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI R. JANARTHANAM): (a) No specific package giving greater autonomy to Life Insurance Corporation of India (LIC), General Insurance Corporation of India (GIC) and its subsidiaries is presently under consideration of the Government.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Copies of the Citizen's Charters adopted by the LIC, GIC and its subsidiaries are at Annexure [*See Appendix* 184, *Annexure No.* 21]

(d) and (e) Public Sector Banks have adopted "Citizens' Charter". The Charter indicates various services/facilities

provided by the banks and also informs customers and public about the redressal machinery existing in the banks.

Eleventh Finance Commission

648. DR. B. B. DUTTA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to constitute the Eleventh Finance Commission; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI YASHWANT SINHA): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. It is proposed to constitute and notify the Eleventh Finance Commission shortly.

Valuation of Assets by it Department

649. SHRI AMAR SINGH: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Income-tax department has valued the assets of Chandraswami and Vishwa Dharmayatan Trust at more than Rs. 2300 crore as per reports appearing in the press;

(b) the names of the trustees of the said Trust and the details of donations so far received by the Trust from foreign countries; and

(c) whether any assessment of the assets of the remaining trustees has been made and if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI R. JANARTHANAM): (a) No, Sir.

(b) (i) Names of the trustees of Vishwa Dharmayatan Trust as on 21.6.96 are as below:

1. Shri Chandraswamyji
2. Dr. P.C. Reddy
3. Shri R.C. Jain
4. Shri R.K.S. Sengar
5. Dr. Subramaniyam Swamy
6. Mr. Vikram Singh
7. Shri Venu Gopal Dhoot

(ii) The total amount of donations received from foreign countries by this Trust is Rs. 2,29,04,832.

(c) The tax assessments have been made upto Assessment Year 1996-97 in the case of Shri Pratap C. Reddy and upto Assessment Year 97-98 in the cases of S/Shri R.C. Jain, Subramaniyan Swamy and Veenugopal Nand Lal Dhoot. Since there is a search in the case of other three trustees, the search assessments under Chapter XIV-B of the Act have been made.

Raids by Directorate of Enforcement Calcutta on SWIL Limited

650. SHRI GHUFRAN AZAM: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether raids were conducted by Directorate of Enforcement, Calcutta during the last year on the premises of M/s. SWIL Limited, Calcutta;

(b) if so, whether Government have received complaints that the officers of the Enforcement Directorate, Calcutta are trying to close the case by taking huge bribes from SWIL limited; and

(c) if so, action taken for fresh investigation into the case to punish the guilty?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI R. JANARTHANAM): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

Fresh Probe into Indian Bank Scam

651. SHRI GHUFRAN AZAM: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to probe afresh Indian Bank scam;

(b) if so, the facts and details thereof;

(c) the purpose of holding afresh probe into the scam; and